

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image information receiving section to receive image information including image data and setting data indicating a control condition at the time of an image formation;

a first storing section to store temporarily the image information received by the image information receiving section as one of a plurality of JOB data;

an image forming section to form an image based on the image information stored in the first storing section;

a second storing section to store image information corresponding to specific JOB data among the image information received by the image information receiving section;

a selecting section to select JOB data to be combined from the plurality of JOB data stored in the second storing section;

a judging section to judge the propriety of the JOB data selected by the selecting section based on the content of the setting data of the selected JOB data; and

a control section to combine a plurality of JOB data judged as being selectable by the judging section into a single set of combined JOB data, to store the combined JOB

data in the first storing section and to control the image forming section based on the combined JOB data.

2. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image information receiving section is an image reading section to read an image on a document.

3. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the judging section and the control section are constructed by a common controlling means.

4. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of JOB data are combined based on the premise that the setting data of each of the plurality of JOB data contains consistent data having a content consistent with that of other JOB data, and wherein when JOB data of the plurality of JOB data does not contain the consistent data, the judging section judges the propriety of the JOB data having not the consistent data.

5. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of JOB data are combined based on the premise that the setting data of each of the plurality of JOB data contains consistent data having a content consistent with

that of other JOB data, and wherein when first JOB data has been selected by the selecting section and when second JOB data is currently selected, the judging section judges the second JOB data as being selectable only when the second JOB data contains consistent data having a content consistent with that of the first JOB data.

6. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of JOB data are combined based on the premise that the setting data of each of the plurality of JOB data contains consistent data having a content consistent with that of other JOB data, and wherein when a first JOB data has been selected by the selecting section and when second JOB data is currently selected, the judging section judges the second JOB data as being selectable only when the second JOB data does not contain first predetermined consistent data and contains second consistent data having a content consistent with that of second consistent data of the first JOB data.

7. The image forming apparatus of claim 4, wherein the consistent data is at least one of specific application function setting information, image size information, image resolution information and compression ratio information.

8. The image forming apparatus of claim 7, wherein the first consistent data is specific application function setting information and the second consistent data is at least one of image size information, image resolution information and compression ratio information.

9. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the setting data includes consistent data supposed to be consistent with that of other JOB data when JOB data is combined with the other JOB data, and utility data based on which the JOB data is executed when an image is formed by the image forming section based on the combined JOB data.

10. The image forming apparatus of claim 9, wherein the consistent data is at least one of specific application function setting information, image size information, image resolution information and compression ratio information and the utility data is at least one of one side/both side record designating information, feed tray selecting information and application function setting information except the specific application function setting information contained in the consistent data.

11. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the setting data includes consistent data supposed to be consistent with that of other JOB data when JOB data is combined with the other JOB data, utility data based on which the JOB data is executed when an image is formed by the image forming section based on the combined JOB data, and changeable data having a changeable content based on which the JOB data is executed when an image is formed by the image forming section based on the combined JOB data.

12. The image forming apparatus of claim 11, wherein the consistent data is at least one of specific application function setting information, image size information, image resolution information and compression ratio information and the utility data is at least one of one side/both side record designating information, feed tray selecting information and application function setting information except the specific application function setting information contained in the consistent data, and the changeable data is at least one of record set number setting information of the combined JOB data, record material discharge mode setting information, and partial information of the application function setting information in the utility data.

13. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the setting data contains storing information indicating the specific JOB data to be stored in the second storing section.

14. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a designating section to designate image information among the image information received by the image information receiving section as the specific JOB data to be stored in the second storing section.

15. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image information receiving section to receive image information including image data and setting data indicating a control condition at the time of an image formation;

a first storing section to store temporarily the image information received by the image information receiving section as one of a plurality of JOB data;

an image forming section to form an image based on the image information stored in the first storing section;

a second storing section to store image information corresponding to specific JOB data among the image information received by the image information receiving section;

a selecting section to select JOB data to be combined from the plurality of preserved JOB data;

a control section to combine a plurality of JOB data selected by the selecting section into a single set of combined JOB data, to store the combined JOB data in the first storing section and to control the image forming section so as to conduct an image formation of the combined JOB data base on the setting data of optional JOB data selected from the plurality of JOB data.

16. The image forming apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a JOB designating means for designating the optional JOB data having the setting data indicating a control condition at the time of conducting an image formation for the combined JOB data.

17. The image forming apparatus of claim 15, wherein the image formation is executed for the combined JOB data based on a control condition corresponding to the content of the setting data of the JOB data which has be selected firstly among the plurality of JOB data selected by the selecting section.

18. The image forming apparatus of claim 15, wherein the setting data contains storing information indicating the specific JOB data to be stored in the second storing section.

19. The image forming apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a designating section to designate image information among the image information received by the image information receiving section as the specific JOB data to be stored in the second storing section.

20. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image information receiving section to receive image information including image data and setting data indicating a control condition at the time of an image formation;

a first storing section to store temporarily the image information received by the image information receiving section as one of a plurality of JOB data;

an image forming section to form an image based on the image information stored in the first storing section;

a second storing section to store image information corresponding to specific JOB data among the image information received by the image information receiving section;



a selecting section to select JOB data to be combined from the plurality of preserved JOB data;

a control condition designating means for designating a control condition for a single set of combined JOB data composed of a plurality of JOB data selected by the selecting section; and

a control section to control the image forming section so as to execute an image formation for the combined JOB data based on the control condition designated by the control condition designating means.

21. The image forming apparatus of claim 20, wherein the setting data contains storing information indicating the specific JOB data to be stored in the second storing section.

22. The image forming apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a designating section to designate image information among the image information received by the image information receiving section as the specific JOB data to be stored in the second storing section.

23. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control section controls the image forming section so as to execute an image formation for the combined JOB data in

accordance with a sequentially-selected order of each of the plurality of JOB data selected by the selecting section.

24. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an indicating section by which a content of the setting data of each JOB data stored in the second storing section can be confirmed.

25. The image forming apparatus of claim 24, wherein when the judging section judges the selected JOB data as being improper, the indicating section indicates the ground of the judgment.

26. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a warning means for issuing a warning when the judging section judges the selected JOB data as being improper.

27. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an elimination designating means for designating JOB data to be eliminated among the plurality of JOB data stored in the second storing section.

28. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control section is capable of coping with any one of an image combining mode to form an image by combining each image data based on only the each image data of the plurality of JOB data selected by the selecting section and a JOB data combining mode to form an image by combining each JOB data based on each setting data and each image data of the plurality of JOB data selected by the selecting section.

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